Productions of the Country-Trade and Commerce.

AGRICULTURE - MANUFACTURES - FISHERIES - MAK ONICULTURE— MANUFACTURES— PARTICULES— MARING OF SALT—KATURAL PRODUCTS: OOTTON, SILK,
COPPER, IRON, TIMBER, TEA, TOBACCO, HORSES,
GATLE, HPMF, LKAD, TIN, ETC.; PEARLS, MARBLES,
PRINTS, VEGETABLES, BTC.—DOMESTIC ANIMALS—
FOULDRY—WILD ANIMALS—BIRDS—PISH, ETC.—
STATE OF THE FINE ARTS—POREIGN TRADE—
CHERONE MODERS—SMUGGLING MEGALING. OUSTON HOUSES SMUGGLING REGULATIONS --COINS PAPER CURRENCY -- TRADE WITH THE CHI-

IFrom Memoirs of a Captivity in Japan, by Captain Golownin, of the Russian Navy.]

Though the Japanese possessions extend througonly a few degrees of latitude, the climate of the only a few degrees of latitude, the climate of the country is uncommonly diversified. The cause of this is to be attributed to the situation of the country. This diversity of the climate causes a great variety in the productions of the soil. The principalities of Tzyngaru, Nambu, and the island of Matsmai, with other northern possessions, where the ground is covered with snow about five months together, produce many plants that belong to the frigid zone; and in the southern possessions of Japan, the fruits of the tropical climates are found to flourish.

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As I had no opportunity to visit the principal islands belonging to Japan, I cannot speak of their productions as an eye-winess, but only repeat what I have heard from the Japanese, and describe what I could infer from their way of life, and what I saw of the articles imported into the island of Matsmai.

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I have already mentioned the causes why the reader cannot expect from me any complete description of the Japanese empire; still less can I satisfy the curiosity of a naturalist, who might wish, perhaps, that I should describe every shell found in Japan. Besides the want of opportunities to examine things myself, I did not possess the requisite. Inowledge to observe with the eye of a naturalist. The reader will therefore not take it amiss if I make my short remarks on the productions of Japan, not according to classes, or a systematic arrangement, for instance, according to the kingdoms of nature, but enumerate them in succession, according to the greater or smaller advantage which the inhabitants derive from them. The chief and most useful productions of Japan are the following:

Rice, fish, redishes, salt, cotton, silk, copper, iron, timber, tea, tobacco, horses, oxen, hemp, and a tree which they call kaday, gold and silver, lead, quick-silver, and sulphur.

I doubt whether there is a book in which so many

silver, and sulphur.

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I doubt whether there is a book in which so many different things are brought under oxe head, and treated in such order; however, this does not deter me, and I consider this order as not wholly minatural. Rice is the chief production, and nearly the only thing the Japanese use for bread; it is to them what tye is to us; may, it is even more important; for there are many persons in Russia who cat no tye bread; in Japan, on the contrary, every body, from the monarch to the beggar, lives on rice. Besides, in all Japan, they make of the straw, shoes, hats, floor mats in the houses, mats for sacks, and for packing up goods, a kind of writing paper, and many other things of less consequence, but useful for domestic purposes, such as baskets, brooms, &c. The Japanese also extract from rice a kind of brandy or wine, and the weak liquor called sagi.

Fish are in Japan what meat is in Europe, and much more, because we cat many kinds of meat and also fish, whereas, in Japan, but few people cat meat, except the priests; and all, without exception, eat fish. Besides, they light their houses with fish oil, which is made in great quantities in the northern parts of Japan. Only the rich burn candles.

The radish supplies the place of our cabbago, and is used in soup in various ways; salted radish serves them also instead of salt, to all their food.
Whole fields are sown with radishes; they are so

Whole fields are sown with radishes; they are so used to radish soup, that a searcity of this plant would be very distressing to them.

Salt is not only indispensable for their daily use, but serves also for the caring of fish; for their chief fisheries are on the coasts of the Kurile islands and Sagaleen, whence many hundred ships annually bring them to ports of the kingdom of Japan. Two means are used to preserve fish, salting and drying; but the large fish cannot be so dried as to remain long fit to eat in the warm climate.

Silk and cotton, besides the uses to which they are generally applied, surply also the place of our wool, hemp, flax, down, feathers, and furs; for whatever is worn in Japan is made of these two articles. They likewise make of cotton stuff travelling cloaks, cases for arms, and other things, and tobacco pouches, which are varnished in such a

Japanese. He smokes his pipe continually, and sipe tea with it. His little pipe is filled every five minutes, and after a few puffs laid down. Even during the night, the Japanese get up for a few minutes to smoke tobacce and drink a cup of tea, which serves to quench their thirst, instead of beer, water, and kness.

water, and kness.

The Japanese do not use the flesh of horned cattle for food, because they have an aversion to it; but they keep some, as well as horses, to draw

They manufacture of hemp the coarse cloth for workmen's dresses, and for the sails of their ships; but they make their cables and ropes of the bark of but they make their cables and ropes of the bark of the tree called kadzy, without using tar or any other resinous matter. Hence their ropes are not comparable, either for strength or durability, with those made of hemp; but they are good enough for their limited voyages, in which they are not exposed to any great storm. Besides, the cheapness of the materials allows them to have new ropes more frequently. Of this bark they often make also thread, lamp-wicks, a kind of cheap eloth, writing paper, and paper for Japanese pocket-handkerchiefs. Gold and silver, so far as they serve for magnificence and luxury, cannot, indeed, be reckoned among the necessaries of life; but if we consider the advantage and the means which they afford a money, for the procuring of necessaries and the exchange of home productions, they must certainly be reckoned among the chief necessaries of an enlightened nation, and on this account I mention them here.

be reckoned among the chief necessaries of an enlightened nation, and on this account I mention them here.

Lead, tin, and quicksilver may also be reckoned as chief necessaries, because they are required in the refining of gold and silver, and also in the manufacture of arms, which are used by every nation that values its independence. For the latter reason, brimstone comes under the same head.

Rice grows in such great abundance in the middle part of the island of Niphon, that the Japanese, notwithstanding the extraordinary population of the country, do not want to import it. It is true they receive rice from China, but only out of precaution, lest, in case of scarcity, the Chinese government should make a difficulty to permit the exportation of it, and exclude it from the number of goods which form the usual articles of trade between the two kingdons. The northern provinces of Japan, viz. the principalities of Nambu and Tzyngaiu, are poor in rice, and receive it, for the most part, from other countries, it is not cultivated in Matsmai, Sachalis and the Kurile Islands, because it will not grow, on account of the cold climate. We saw, indeed, pieces of land sown with rice in Matsmai, in a valley near Chakodade, but our guards told us that it was only done for a trial.

The Japanese boil out of rice a kind of thick gruel, and eat it at all their meals, instead of

trial.

The Japanese boil out of rice a kind of thick The Japanese boil out of rice a kind of thick gruel, and eat it at all their meals, instead of bread; from the flour of rice they prepare cakes and divers kinds of pastry, which resembles our confectionary. But rice is not the only bread-com of the Japanese; they have also barley, with which they sometimes feed the horses, and make cakes and other things from the flour; maize, which they use in food in various ways, and sometimes roast whole cars, and cat the grain; many kinds of beans, which are a favorite dish of the Japanese; they sometimes eat them merely boiled in water, sometimes in treade or soy; small beans are often boiled with thick rice, and pass for a great delicacy. The Japanese soy is also prepared of beans, and turned rour in easks. They say that three years are required for preparing the best soy. Sweet and common potatoes are also cultivated in Japan, but they want land to plant them. The Japanese sweet potatoes are quite different from those I saw in other parts of the world, as in Portugal, in the island of Madeira, in the Brazils, &c., &c. They resemble, in size, our largest potatoes, only that they are a little longer, the skin cak red the inside lie with in size, our largest potatoes, only that they little longer, the skin cark red, the inside is little longer, the skin cark red, the inside is white, the taste agreeable, and smells like the rose. They have also peas, but it is only a garden plant with them. In so confined and populous a state as Japan, and such a climate, no corn, except rice, can be in general use, because only rice can grow in so narrow a space, in such abundance, as to be sufficient

for so great a nation.
I cannot exactly state what kinds of fish ar caught in the southern and middle parts of the coast of Japan, and in the rivers of that kingdom, but on the coasts of Matsmai, Kunaschier, Ectoo-rep, and Sugaleen, simuet all kinds of fish are to call in great quantities, which they have in

Kamsebatka, and of which I shall speak in the de-

Kamschatka, and of which I shall speak in the description of the Japanese possessions in the Kurile Islands. There is no kind of sea animal, except those which are poisonous, that the Japanese do not make use of; whalea, sea-lions, all kinds of seals, sea-hogs, sea-bears, furnish them with palatable food. Hence, there is, in all the Japanese possessions, no coast where there are not fisheries, which employ a number of people. They catch fish on the coast in great nets, in the seas with lines. The Japanese do not, like the Europeans, venture to kill whales in the open sea, but catch them in creeks, and close to the coast, in very strong nets. The dead sea animals which the waves have cast on shore serve them for food; nay, even people of the highest class think such carrion a great delicacy.

The Japanese radish is, in the form and taste, very different from ours; it is thin, and extremely long, even to two arsheens in length. The taste of it is not very bitter, but sweetish, akmost like our turnips. Whole fields are covered with it. A great part of the crop is salted, the other part is buried in the ground for winter, and boiled in soup. Not even the radish leaves remain unused, they are boiled in soup, or salted, and eaten as salad. The fresh leaves also of this plant are warmed by the fire till they smoke, and then put in a packet of tobacco. This, say the Japanese, hinders the tobacco from drying up, and gives it an agreeable smell and taste. I really did convince myself of the former, but did not perceive the latter, perhaps because I am no great smoker. They manure the radish fields with night soil; this we ourselves saw at Matsmai. In some places they use the same manure for rice.

Salt, as I have before observed, is a grand article of convenience in the great part of the convenience in the grand article of convenience in the gr

at Matsmai. In some places they use the same manure for rice.

Salt, as I have before observed, is a grand article of consumption in Japan. The Japanese told us that they had rock salt, but only in small quantities; and as it is, besides, brought from the interior of the kingdom, and not easy of conveyance, very little of it is used. In general, they use sea sait in almost all parts of the kingdom; the preparation of which is facilitated by the extraordinary saltness of the sea water near the tropics, and by the evaporation produced by the heat. The Japanese have, therefore, large pits on the coast, into which they let the sea water, when the tide is up; the evaporation leaves a thick sediment, from which they boil their salt.

According to the description of the Japanese.

let the sea water, when the tide is up; the evaporation leaves a thick sediment, from which they boil their salt.

According to the description of the Japanese, their cotton must be of the same kind as I have seen in the English colonies in the West Indies; that is, it grows on small trees, about the height of a man. They have, however, other kinds of cotton, but I was not able sufficiently to understand their descriptions. The country must produce an immense quantity, as almost all the inhabitants are clothed in it. The wadding which they make of it serves them instead of furs. They also line their mattresses, and their morning gowns, which latter serve them as quilts. Of cotton they likewise make a kind of writing-paper. It is made also into wicks, of which an immense quantity must be used, as the Japanese always keep a light during the night. Rich people burn candles, as I have said before, and the poor, fish-oil. When foreign vessels enter their ports, or an officer of distinction arrives, the Japanese hang the whole town with cotton stuff. In a word, there is perhaps no other country in which so great a quantity of cotton is used as in Japan; for this reason, great care is taken to extend the cultivation of it. As an instance of the industry and activity of this original people, it may be mentioned that they import from the Kurile islands, into the interior of Japan, herrings spoiled by keeping, to serve as manure for the cotton plants. They first boil the herrings in large iron kettles; then put them in presses, and let all the liquid flow into the same kettles, from which they take the oil for their lamps. What remains of the herrings is spread upon mais, and laid in the san to dry, till they corrupt, and are almost converted into ashes. They are then filled into sacks, and put on board the boats. The earth round cach cotton plant is manured with them, which causes the crop to be extremely abundant.

Japan is also very rich in silk. We had the proofs before our eyes. Matsmai is reckoned to be one of the

Japan is also very rich in silk. We had the proofs before our eyes. Matsmai is reckoned to be one of the very poorest towns; yet we constantly saw people of all ranks, especially women, in silk dresses. On festivals, even the common soldiers wore costly silk dresses. If we consider the great population of the Japanese empire, the quantity of silk must be very great, even if only rich people dressed themselves in it. It was not, indeed, difficult for the Japanese to cultivate this production to a great extent, as it requires only a good climate and industry; the former is favorable, and the latter is possessed by the Japanese in a very high degree.

whatever is worn in Japan is made of these two articles. They likewise make of cotton stuff travelling cloaks, cases for arms, and other things, and tobacco pouches, which are varnished in such a manner that they may be taken for leather.

Copper and iron are as necessary in Japan as in Europe. Besides the ordinary uses to which we apply it, the Japanese cover the roofs of their houses, which they desire particularly to preserve with copper, and also cover the outward joints of the buildings with the same metal, that the rainwater may not penetrate. Tobacco pipes are also made of it. A very large quantity of iron is used for nails; for the Japanese house consist of boards nailed, within and without, with iron nails, to upright pillars which are joined by cross beams; every little box, too, however inconsiderable, is fastened together with nails.

In so populous a country as Japan, when the frequent and violent earthquakes render it dangerous to creet buildings of stone, timber may be reckoned among the chief necessaries of the people.

Tea and tobacco, it should seem, might be easily dispensed with; but enstom and fashion often operate as strongly as nature; next to food, ten and tobacco are, above everything, necessary to the Japanese. He smokes his pipe continually, and sips tea with it. His little pipe is filled every five Copper is also produced in Japan in great abunwhich the Japanese wanted skill, or inclination, to extract from it. But they are now become wiser,

which the Japanese wanted skill, or inclination, to extract from it. But they are now become wiser, and give the Dutch only pure copper.

With respect to iron, the Japanese do not possess that metal in such abundance as copper, but they have sufficient to supply their absolute wants; and if the government exchanged with the Dutch, copper for iron, this was not of necessity, but because iron is for many purposes preferable to copper. As the Japanese have a surplus of the latter, both they and the Dutch profited by this exchange. They often told us, that the trade with the Dutch did not produce them the least advantage—only some medicines and political news, which the Dutch bring them from Europe, being of importance to them. If the Japanese had not iron sufficient for their absolute wants, they would certainly set more value on the trade with the Dutch.

Timber.—The greater part of the Japanese previnces are without wood. The extraordinary population of the kingdom renders it necessary to cultivate every spot of ground, and therefore only the mountains, which cannot be cultivated, are covered with woods. The principality of Nambu, which lies on the northeast part of the island of Niphon, being very mountainous, is rich in timber, with which it supplies all Japan, in exchange for provisions, of which it does not produce sufficient for the support of its inhabitants. On the mountains of the islands of Matsmai, Kunsshier, Ectooroop, and Sagaleen, there are forests of all kinds of trees, which the Japanese also make use of. We saw there numbers of very fine beams ready to be exported. Notwithstanding this, the Japanese draw but little timber from these islands, because it is so difficult to convey it from the interior to the coasts, and they have tanding this, the Japanese draw but little timber rom these islands, because it is so difficult to con-rey it from the interior to the coasts, and they have rey it from the interior to the coasts, and they have not yet felt the necessity of surmounting these ob-stacles. If this should happen, the Japanese will seen open a read to mountains which other nations would consider as inaccessible. I doubt whether anything would be impossible for the zeal, activity,

d patience of this people.
The Japanese wished to know the Russian name for some species of wood, and brought to us pieces and branches of wood, asking how they were all called in Russia. We made use of this opportunity, and asked where these trees grew. By this means and oranines of wood, asking now they were an acalled in Russia. We made use of this opportunity, and asked where these trees grew. By this means we learned that several kinds of oaks, palms (of which the Japanese make very good combs), bamboo, cypresses, cedars, yews, firs, and other kinds of trees, the names of which are unknown to us, crow in these ideals.

of trees, the names of which are unknown to us, grow in these islands.

I have before mentioned that habit has rendered ten one of the first necessaries of life among the Japanese. Japan produces both green and black ten. The first is considered as the best, and, in fact, is so. The Japanese even prefer it to the Chinese green ten: but, according to our taste, it does not merit this preference. With respect to the black ten, it is very bad, and the Japanese drink it merely to quench their thirst, whereas they look upon the green tea as a deliency, and treat their company with it. The Japanese officers, and also the governor, often sent us green tea as a present; but then the interpreters and the gnards assisted, with a good appetite, in emptying the ten-kettle. Ten grows in all the southern provinces of Japan; the best green is produced in the principality of Kiote, in which Kio, the city or residence of the spiritual emperor, is situated. In this province tea is cultivated with great care, both for his court and that of the temporal emperor.

Tobacco is an article which is equally indispensable to the Japanese. The Catholic missionaries were the first who introduced this plant, and taught

le to the Japanese. The Catholic missionaries were the first who introduced this plant, and taught them its use. From them, too, the Japanese received its name, and still call it tabaco, or tabago, it is astonishing how the use of this worthless herb should have spread, in so short a time, over the whole earth, as it is entirely without taste, without whole earth, as it is entirely without taste, without any agreeable smell, without use to the health, and a mere amusement for idle people! Our interpreter. Teske, one of the most sensible of our Jajanese acquaintance, was himself a great smoker, but often said that the Christian priests had not done the Japanese so much injury by the introduction of their faith, which only produced among them internal commotions and civil wars, as by the introduction of tobacco; for the former was only a transitory, long forgotten evil, but the latter ditransitory, long forgotten evil, but the latter verted, and probably would do for centuries to come large tracts of land and a number of hands from the production of useful and necessary articles, which are now dear, but might otherwise be theaper. Besides, the workmen could not then so

often interrupt their labor, but now they were con-tinually resting themselves in order to smoke their

often interrupt their labor, but now they were continually resting themselves in order to smoke their pipes.

I do not know how many species of this plant there are in nature, nor how many of them the Japanese have, but I saw various kinds of prepared tobacco among them, from the most pleasant to the most digusting. They cut both the good and the bad tobacco very small, as the Chinese do. In the manufacture of the better sort, they use sagi to moisten it, and sell it in papers which weigh about a Russian pound The Japanese consider the tobacco from Sasma as the best, then, that from Nangasaky, Sinday, &c. The worst comes from the province of Tayngaru; it is strong, of a black color, and has a disgusting taste and smell. The tobacco from Sasma is, indeed, also strong, but it has an agreeable taste and smell, and is of a bright yellow color. The tobacco from Nangasaky is very weak, in taste and smell perhaps the best, and of a bright brown color. The tobacco from Sinday is very good, and was always given us to smoke. The Japanese manufacture tobacco so well, that though! was before no friend to smoking, and even when I was at Jamaica, could but seldem persuade myself to smoke a Havana segar, yet I smoked the Japanese tobacco very frequently, and with great pleasure. Smull is not used in Japan. But enough of this plant. I could, indeed, for the pleasure of gentlemen who like smoking, write some sheets more on the article of tobacco; for there was nothing concerning which we had such frequent opportunities to converse with the Japanese. The literati, the interpreters, and guards, all smoked, and used, too, different kinds of tobacco, according to their respective tasts or ability. Out of politeness, they frequently offered us their tobacco, and mentioned its name. In this manner a conversation usually began upon tobacco, which often lasted for hours together. We often had no opportunity to speak of other more important things, and, besides, the Japanese did not all like to converse upon them.

The Japanese horses a

about feeding them, as they use neither meat nor milk.

Hemp grows in the northern provinces of Japan. We saw some in Matsmai. I have already mentioned for what purposes the Japanese employ it.

The tree called kadzy grows in great abundance, and is of the most important use to the inhabitants. The Japanese explained to us what kind of a tree it is, but I never understood them sufficiently to describe it.

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The Japanese possess, in several parts of the empire, considerable gold and silver mines. The government, however, does not permit them all to be worked, that the value of these metals may not be depreciated. The Japanese use gold and silver for various purposes besides coin; their temples are ornamented with these metals; people of distinction wear sabres, with gold or silver hilts and seabbards; rich people have gold and silver pipes; many lackered articles, such as table utensils, boxes, sercens, &c., are ornamented with gold and silver; there is a kind of gold and silver staffs; nay, we were told, that in the principal cities, there are numerous public buildings with gilded roofs. In the houses of the princes and great people, there are many ornaments of these metals, and the ladies frequently wear gold and silver trinkets.

Japan has sufficient lead, tin, quicksilver, and sulphur for the supply of its wants. They cust not only musket bullets, but even cannon balls of tin, because they have had no wars for these two hundred years; if it was with them as in Europe, this luxury would soon cease. As for sulphur, they have an island which is entirely covered with it, and which, on account of the hot springs, is covered with a constant vapor. This island is one of the seven worders of the Japanese empire, all of which they named to us.

Having thus spoken of those productions of Japan which supply the chief wants of this enlightened people, I proceed to those which administer rather to fashion or luxury, or are, at least, less necessary. They are the following:

Diamonds and pearls, marble and other kinds of stone, the camphor tree, the varnish tree, fruit trees, garden plants, various wild plants, domestic and wild animals, which are used by the Japanese.

Japan produces precious stones, but of what kinds we were not able to learn. The officers who had seen the snuff-box, and other things, which the

eautiful a polish.

Japan is rich in pearls, but we did not see any beautiful a poish.

Japan is rich in pearls, but we did not see any remarkably large.

There are various kinds of marble in Japan. They showed us various articles made of white marble, with small blue veins, and of another kind of marble, like that with which Isaac's church, at St. Petersburg, is built. They also showed us scals made of cornelian, agate, jasper, and other stones with which I am unacquainted. On the coasts of the principalities of Nambu and Tzyngaru, there are found stones of different colors, and of the size of a nut, which are so washed by the waves that they seem almost transparent, like crystal. The Japanese gave me twelve red and twelve white stones of this kind, to use at drafts, but the sailor, whom I ordered to take them with him, lost them.

Many Japanese carry perfumes about them, among which is camphor. They told us that in the southern part of Japan, the tree which produces it grows in such abundance, that notwithstanding the great consumption of it in the country, large quantities are exported by the Dutch and Chinese. There is also an imitation of camphor, in Japan, but everybody can distinguish it from the genuine.

The Japanese varnish is celebrated even in Europe. The tree which produces this juice grows in such abundance that the Japanese lacker all their table utensils, boxes, saddles, bows, arrows, spears, sheaths, cartouch-boxes, tobacco-boxes; in their houses, the walls and screens, and, in short, every trifle that they wish to ornament. We had the pleasure to see a masterpiece in varnishing. It was a bottle case belonging to the governor, who sent it for us to look at. The polish on it was so beautiful, that we could see our faces in it as in a mirror. The natural color of this juice is white, but it assumes any color by being mixed with it. The best varnish in Japan is usually black or red, and almost everything is so varnished; but we saw, also, green, yellow, blue, and other varnish. In varnishing they also imitate marble. The juice, when fresh, is peisonous, and very injurious to those who collect it, for which reason they employ various precautions; but after it has stood for some time in the open air, it loses its poisonous quality. The The Japanese varnish is celebrated even in Eu precautions; but after it has stood for some time in the open air, it loses its poisonous quality. The varnished utersils may be used without danger. The Japanese are so clever in varnishing, that you may pour hot water into a vessel, and drink it, without perceiving the slightest smell of the paint. This, however, is true only with respect to vessels of the best workmanship; in others you smell the paint, even if warm water is poured into them.

The Japanese have no want of fruit trees. They have oranges, lemons, peaches, apricots, plums, figs, cherries, pears, apples, chesnuts, &c. It is strange, that with a climate like that of Japan, no grapes should flourish there. The Japanese have only small wild grapes, which are very sour, and are salted and eaten as salad. The reason, perhaps, is that they grow in the woods, under the shade of the trees, and that the Japanese do not understand the culture of the vine.

the trees, and that the Japanese do not understand the culture of the vine.

Next to rice and fish, vegetables are the favorite food of the Japanese. They have melons, water melons, gourds, cucumbers, turnips, carrots, mustard, ke. We could not learn whether they had any cabbages. We frequently explained to them what kind of a plant it was, and even made them a drawing of one, but they always said, that they had nothing like it growing in Japan. Except melons and water melons, the Japanese cat no vegetables raw, and were much surprised when they saw us eat raw cucumbers, with sait and vinegar. They may their mustard with vinegar, and eat it with fish.

They have also large quantities of red or cayenne pepper, and poppies. They eat the pepper raw, with various dishus, or boil it in sugar, and use it as a preserve. They mix the peppy with sugar or treacle, and eat it with a paste made of pounded rice. They use poppy oil to fry fish in, and in the dressing of various dishes.

dressing of various dishes.

Among the vegetable productions used by the Japanese for food, are sugar-cane, black and red currants, bird cherry (Prunus Padus, Lian.), various herbs, fungi, sea-cabbage, and the berries of wild roses, or hips, which grow in abundance in the northern provinces of Japan. The Japanese use the latter as a medicine against wind, and eat then

The sugar cane is rare in Japan, and the sugar

want of land, which serves for the cultivation of more necessary plants, probably hinders the Japanese from cultivating this cane, which is merely an article of luxury.

The Japanese salt the currants and bird cherries, and cat them instead of salad. Of the herbs poor people make soup, and also cat them salted. Pickled mushrooms are considered as a great delicacy; they are boiled in soups, salted, or laid in vinegar.

prople make soup, and also eat them saited. Pickled mushroems are considered as a great delicacy; they are boiled in soups, saited, or laid in vinegar.

With respect to the sea-cabbage, this plant, which is disregarded almost everywhere else, not only gives food to millions of people in Japan, but it is also an article of commerce. The Japanese dry it, and then use it in soup, or, wrapping it round fish, boil and eat both together. Often they breil it over the fire, strew sait on it, and eat it without any further dressing. This cabbage serves chiefly peor people for their support; but the rich frequently eat them dressed in a different manner, and even the Emperor's kitchen is furnished with it. The domestic animals of the Japanese, besides horses and exen, which I have mentioned before, are swine, dogs, and cats. The first are used as food by those seets that are permitted to eat meat. The dogs are employed in the chase and to guard the houses, and the eats perform the same services as in Europe, though a writer upon Japan says that the Japanese cats do not catch mice. This is, however, false; were it not, nature must deviate, in Japan, from her own laws. Besides, experience has convinced us of the contrary. A Japanese he-cat that we had, understood his business perfectly, and was not inferior to any of his European brethren. I must observe, besides, that he often amused us in prison by his tricks, and was our favorite, and, therefore, was never in want of food; yet instinct made him catch the rats and mice. If European writers kave so often denied to Japanese animals the qualities with which nature has ondowed them, can we wonder that they painted the Japanese in such false colors?

Chickens and ducks are the only domestic fowl that the Japanese use (though but seldom) as food. Though it is permitted in some sects, yet, from attachment to these animals, they do not like to kill them. Hone of us was ill, and the Japanese wished to make him some chicken broth, as they had heard that it was usually given to the

ciothes, bottle-cases, and the like.

The gall of the bear is made by them into a solid mass, and used as a strengthening medicine for weakness in the stomach, and other disorders. It is highly valued by the Japanese for its medicinal virtue, and paid for at a high price. They affirm that the gall of those bears which are killed in the island of Niphon is far more efficacious than that of the bears of Matsmai, which latter are therefore less esteemed. The hunters often practise great frauds in the sale of the bear's gall. When they are on the chace they kill all the animals that come in their way, and take out the gall. If they have the good fortune to kill a bear, they carry him home as publicly as possible, in order to attract attention, and as the Japanese miss no opportunity of purchasing the valuable medicine, all who meet the hunters ask if they have already sold the bear's gall? The huntsman then gives them the gall of some other animal, and if the purchaser is not a judge, he is defrauded. In this manner they will sell the gall of a bear many times over. Many of the Japanese, however, are able to distinguish by the taste, not only the gall of any animal from that of a bear, but even the gall of any animal from that of a bear, but even the gall of the bear of Niphon from that of those of Matsmai. Our interpreter, Kumaddschero, was such a judge. The method of using this remedy is very simple; they bite off little pieces and swallow them.

Of deer skins the Japanese manufacture a kind of thick and fine chamois leather.

Of useful insects the Japanese have silk-worms and bees. The honey which the latter produce is employed only in medicine, and the wax used only by apothecaries, for plasters.

In the third and last division of the productions of Japan, I reckon those from which the inhabitants derive little or no advantage. Among them I may mention coals, which are in abundance in Japan, but not used.

Raspberries, wild and garden strawberries, which we esteem so highly in Europe, are not eaten by

but not used.

Raspberries, wild and garden strawberries, which we esteem so highly in Europe, are not eaten by the Japanese. They consider them as unwholesome. These fruits, however, are really not at all pleasant in Japan; they are, indeed, as large as ours, and of a dark red color, but they are not sweet, are very watery, and almost without smell. In general the Japanese eat no berries that grow on herbs.

The following wild quadrupeds are found in Ja-pan:—Bears, panthers, leopards, wolves, wild dogs and foxes. Many superstitious Japanese ascribe to the last the power of the devil. In the southern and middle provinces of the covince there. and middle provinces of the empire there are mon-keys of a small race; in the island of Matsmai, sables, but their fur is reddish, and, therefore, does not bear a high price. Elephants, tigers, lions, camels, apes, grayhounds, pointers, setting-dogs, and other species of dogs, are known to the Japanese only

species of dogs, are known to the Japanese only from drawings.

There are numerous kinds of birds of prey in Japan, such as eagles, falcons, hawks, kites, &c. Of wild fowl, the seets that may eat meat use geese and ducks for food. Swans and cranes are held sacred, and nobody dares to kill them. Of singing birds, such as we also have, we saw in cages, starlings, bullfinches, and greenfinches; but no others. The Japanese are fond of singing birds in their houses, and there are shops that deal in them.

More common birds, such as cuckoos, ravens, crows, sparrows, &c., are as numerous in the north of Japan and Matsmai as with us. Parrots and canary birds are not met with in Japan. On the

canary birds are not met with in Japan. On the coasts there is abundance of sea-fowl, such as abatrosses, cormorants, various species of gulls, Greenland pigeons, &c.

This is all that I am able to say of the natural

This is all that I am able to say of the natural productions of Japan.

In speaking of the manufactures of this empire, those of silk, sieel, porcelain, and lackered goods must have the first place.

The silk manufactories are important, not only on account of the quantity but also the good quality of the articles which they furnish. The Japanese make several kinds of stuffs and costly articles, which are not at all inferior to those of China.

With respect to steel manufactures, the Japanese

make several kinds of stuffs and costly articles, which are not at all inferior to those of China.

With respect to steel manufactures, the Japanese sabres and daggers surpass all others in the world, those of Damascus, perhaps, excepted. They bear extraordinary trials. The Japanese are extremely skilful in polishing steel, and all other metals. They make metal mirrors, which are scarcely inferior to looking glasses. We often saw carpenters' and cabinetmakers' tools, made in Japan, which might almost be compared with the English. Their saws are so good, that the thinnest boards may be sawn out of the hardest wood.

That the Japanese lackered goods surpass those of other nations is notorious.

The Japanese porcelain is far superior to the Chinese; but it is dearer, and manufactured in such small quantities, that it is insufficient for the consumption of Japan itself, so that a great deal of porcelain is imported from China. The Japanese have also a more ordinary porcelain and earthenware, but they are both coarse and clumsy. It is only on the best porcelain that they employ much time and labor.

The cotton manufactories must be extremely

The cotton manufactories must be extremely The cotton manufactories must be extremely numerous, from the universal use of cotton stuffs; but the Japanese want either skill or inclination to manufacture good articles out of cotton. At least, we never saw anything particular of this kind. When they saw our East India pocket handkerchiefs, and muslin neckcloths, they would not believe that they were made of cotton.

In the working of metals the Japanese are extremely skillul, particularly in the manufacture of copper atencils.

The Japanese understand the art of casting metal statues: they also carve them in stone and wood:

The Japanese understand the art of casting metal statues; they size carve them in stone and wood; but, to judge by the idols which we saw in the temples at Matsmai, these arts are very imperfect among them. In these, as well as in painting, engraving, and printing, they are far behind even those Europeans among whom those arts are still in their infancy. In carving, they are tolerably skilled; and their gold, silver, and copper coins are well executed. They follow various trades with success. They have great distilleries, in which they distil, from rice, their brandy, called setseinio, and their wine, sagi; also tobacco manufactories, iron works, &c. Thousands are employed in the manufacture of straw shoes, hate, and mars. The manufactories are spread over the whole kingdom, but the principal are in the cities of Kio, Yeddo, and Osaga.

The Japanese pursue, with equal diligence The Japanese pursue, with equal diligence, various other species of employment, particularly the fishery. They eatch animals of various kinds in traps, but they shoot still more; they use dogs merely to trace them. They take birds in nets, as well as by shooting them. A particular method is employed to eatch small birds; they make of tar, or the sap of a tree, a thick and elammy paste, with which they smear the trunks of fallen trees, and stick rice around. The rice tempts the birds, which stick to the trees and are eaught in flocks.

Before I finish my account of the industry of the

Japanese, I must observe that there are among them, as among all nations, idle people, who ramble about the streets and public houses, and seek their living by juggler's tricks and begging. The following method by which idle people, especially women, gain money, deserves particular mention. They catch a number of snakes, of different sizes and colors, from which they extract the sting so skiiffally that they cannot do any mischief. Then they strip themselves quite naked, cover merely the parts which decency teaches even savages to conceal, and wind snakes round their arms, legs, and their whole body. In this manner they make themselves a motley covering of the open, hissing serpents' heads; and in this dreadful and brilliant costums, they ramble about the streets, sing, dance, and play all manner of antics, to obtain a reward, or rather charity.

Japan may certainly be called a commercial state, if an extensive national trade alone gives a claim to this title. All the principalities and provinces of this populous empire have a commercial intercourse with each other. The extraordinary diversity of climate produces, in the different provinces of this populous empire have a commercial intercourse with each other. The extraordinary diversity of climate produces, in the different provinces a great variety of articles which all matually want. Necessity, the industry and activity of the people give them means to make use of the productions of nature and art; so that the inhabitants of the whole empire earry on a commercial intercourse with each other, both by land and water. The latter is the most common. The sea along the coasts, and the navigable rivers, are covered with thousands of vessels, which convey goods to all parts of the empire.

Though their navigation is wholly confined to the

The latter is the most common. The sea along the coasts, and the navigable rivers, are covered with thousands of vessels, which convey goods to all parts of the empire.

Though their navigation is wholly confined to the coasts, and their vessels quite unfit for long voyages, particularly in great seas, they, however, are well adapted to their purposes. Many of them are above 106 feet long, and uncommonly broad. The largest Japanese ships can carry a burthen of from 16,000 to 20,000 poods.

The Japanese have many useful regulations and institutions for the safety of navigation; such as pilots in every port, to conduct the ships in and out, and to foretel the weather, according to certain signs, in order to advise the captains either to sail, or to wait. In dangerous places, people are employed to keep up fires. Upon eminences, marks are set up for the direction of mariners, &c. For the conveyance of goods, by land, where it cannot be made by water, good roads and bridges are constructed. Matsmai is merely a Japanese colony; yet, notwithstanding the high mountains and precipices, the rapid torrents, and the rudeness of the climate, theroads are in an admirably good condition. In the open country, far from the towns, we saw bridges, such as I did not meet with in many European states, and in provincial towns.

The commercial spirit of the Japanese is visible in all the towns and villages. In almost every house there is a shop for more or less important goods; and, as we see in England the magnificent magazine of a jeweller next door to an oyster shop, so we see heré a rich silk merchant and a meader of straw shoes live and carry on their business close to each other. In their regard to order, the Japanese very much resemble the English; they love cleanliness and the greatest accuracy. All goods have, in Japan, as in England, little printed bills, on which are noted the price, the use, and the name of the maker, or manufactory, and often something in their praise. Even tobacco, pomatum, tooth-powder, and other trif

made of very thin boards, and have an inscription, indicating the article, the name of the maker, the measure and the quality.

In every port there is a bureau, or custom house, which has the superintendence of the loading and unloading of goods, takes care that nothing is privately imported or exported, levies the duty, and has also other functions. The duty for almost all goods imported is paid by the merchants into the coffer of the Emperor, or of the Princes, according as the port is in the dominions of the Emperor or of one of the Princes. The superintendence of the ships in the port is confided to an officer, whose functions nearly correspond with those of our harbor masters. In Japan, they are also superintendents of the pilots. Before we were released from Japan, we lived at Chakodade, in the house of a harbor master, and saw that a great many seamen and other

we lived at Chakodade, in the house of a harbor master, and saw that a great many seamen and other persons came to him every morning, whence we could conclude that his post was not inconsiderable. For the advantage of the merchants, and to facilitate trade, the government publishes a kind of commercial gazette, which contains an account of the prices of goods in the different parts of the empire. In the same manner, the public is informed by little billets, of the good crop of rice, and other productions, in all the provinces; nay, from the time that the corn begins to shoot, till the harvest, the people are informed, from time to time, of its condition. This attention of the Japanese government to the general and individual interests of its subjects, is highly laudable, and may serve as one reason for us Europeans no longer to look upon the Japanese as barbarians.

In order to extend trade over the whole empire, and give the merchants more resources and facilities, the Japanese have introduced bills of exchange

In order to extend trade over the whole empire, and give the merchants more resources and facilities, the Japanese have introduced bills of exchange and promissory notes, such as are mot with in the European states, under the protection of the laws. In one of the southern principalities of Japan there are bank notes, which circulate as money. There are three kinds of coin in Japan—gold, silver, and copper. The latter are round, with holes in the middle, by which they are put upon a string, and carried, as in a purse. This money is called by the Japanese mon. When they saw our copees they compared them with this coin, and found that four Japanese mon made one copee. The gold and silver coins are longish, four cornered, and thicker than an imperial. The name, value, date of the year, and name of the maker are stamped on each. As I had no opportunity of learning either the standard of the metal, or the weight, I cannot compare them with our coin.

of the metal, or the weight, I cannot compare them with our coin.

The greatest trade by land is carried on in the city of Kio, the residence of the spiritual Emperor. This city does not lie on the sea, but is very populous, and has manufactories of all kinds; it is, therefore, visited by merchants from all parts of the empire, who cannot convey their own goods thither, or bring away what they purchase, except by land. Of all the maritime cities, Yeddo, the residence of the temporal Emperor, and the Osaga, the most beautiful of all the cities, 120 Japanese ri, (or 500 wersts,) southwest of Yeddo, carry on the greatest trade. There are, besides, in almost every principality that borders on the sea, considerable commercial cities.

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principality that borders on the sea, considerable commercial cities.

It is well known in Europe, how restricted the trade with foreigners is in Japan. The cause of it is probably the distrust of the Japanese government of the Europeans, and their bad opinion of them, for which it must be owned that the Europeans alone are to blame. Whether the Japanese government judges rightly or not, I leave others to decide, and will merely observe that the people of Japan, in general, wish to trade with foreigners, particularly Europeans. The enlightened Japanese reason as follows:—"The people are blind, as far as regards the government of this kingdom, and only know superficially what most nearly concerns them. They cannot see two steps before them, and, therefore, might easily fall down a precipice, unless they were guided by persons who can see. Thus, the Japanese, without considering the bad consequences which might result from an intercourse with foreigners, see only the personal advantage which they might derive from trading with them."

Till the attempt of the Europeans to introduce the Christian religion into Japan, that empire carried on an extensive commerce with all the East. Japanese chips sailed not only to China and the Indian Islands, but even to the continent of India, which the Japanese call Tendzigu. But the Christian religion, or rather the Catholic preachers of it, inspired the people with such terror, that the government, after the extirpation of Christianity, two centuries ago, forbade the Japanese, under pain of death, to travel to foreign countries, and did not allow foreigners to come to Japan, except with great precautions, and in small numbers. Japanese ships are admitted in Japan, except with great precautions, and in small numbers. Japanese ships are admitted in Japan, bet a primare than free men who are engaged in a commercial intercourse with a friendly power.

The Chinese supply the Japanese with rice, porcelain, wronght and unwrought ivory, nankeen, moist sugar, ginserg rook, as fans, toba

Mojucen islands.

It is only the harbor of Nangasaky, in the south of Japan, that is open to the Chinese, as well as to the Dutch; all other ports are shut against them. In the same manner, one and the same method is uniformly observed by the Japanese in their trade, or rather barter, with the Chinese and Dutch. When a ship enters the harbor of Nangasaky, after

the usual ceremonies and questions, the goods are landed. Then the imperial officers (for the fereign trade is a monepoly of the Emperor's) examine the quality and quantity of the goods, consult together, and fix the price on those goods which the owners of the ship desire to have in return. The latter must either accede to the terms of the Japanese, or take back the goods; for all bargaining is impossible. In this manner, the Emperor buys foreign goods, by the medium of his commissioners, and sells them wholesale to the Japanese merchants, who will sell them by retail. To judge by the high prices which are paid in Japan for Dutch goods, it must be supposed either that the Dutch are paid exorbitantly dear for them, or that the Emperor and his merchants fix high prices on them; probably both are gainers.

Curlous Circumstances attending the Broderick and Smith Buel.—The State of Society in California.

[From the National Democrat. April 21.]

The circumstances connected with the duel fought between David C. Broderick, Esq., and Judge Smith, at San Francisco, was attended with circumstances that render it almost as marvellous as some of the ancient legendary tales; and in some of its preliminary features is singularly illustrative of California society.

It appears that Judge Smith had publicly stated in a card, that Mr. Broderick was a sooundrel, a blackguard, a villain, a liar, and used several other opprobrious epithets respecting him, which were so grossly ungentlemanly that, according to the code duello, Mr. Broderick could not challenge Smith. The only alternative left to Mr. Broderick, which comported with his sense of dignity, was to shoot Smith wherever he met him, and to notify him that such was his intention, so that he might be armed and fully prepared for a terrible street encounter. Smith was accordingly informed by Broderick of his intention, and requested to arm himself. Both parties were accordingly awaiting the first opportunity to become the murderers of each other. This condition of things became known to the riends of each of the combatants, and the result was that they also armed to protect the respective champions. The consequence was, that groups of armed men were patrolling the streets for days, and casionally a street fight would come off. The nuhorities became alarmed; the famous Vigilanee Cosmittee were summoned for consultation, and action, if necessary. The whole public were highly xelted, and an investigation into the merite of the difficulty was had by the friends on both sides, in which the public generally participated to a great a xtent. The result of the verdict arrived at from this mode of investigation, was, that no justifiable cause seemed to exist for the ungestlemanly and villainous ard published by Smith, and he was urged to withdraw the opportunity to settle their own di

Statistics of the Philadelphia Post Office.

Statistics of the Philadelphia Post Office.

[From the Philadelphia North American.]

For the year ending June 30th, 1846, which was the first year of the five and ten cent postage duties, the receipts at the Philadelphia post office amounted to \$112,621 95. For the year ending June 30th, 1847, the receipts were \$127,771 63, and for the year ending June 30th, 1848, the receipts were \$143,105 10. For the subsequent four years, down to the present time, we present the following statement of the quarterly receipts:—

EXCEPTIS FOR POSTAGE AT THE FINIADELPHIA POST, ONLY

RECEIPTS FOR POSTAGE AT THE PHILADELPHIA POST OF RECEIT'S FOR FORTAGE AT THE FINLADELFINA FORT OF-FICE, FOR FOUR YEARS, ENDING JUNE 30th, NEXT, 1852. For qr. ending Sept. 30th, 1848, \$43.084 10 "Dec. 31st, 43.210 00 "March 31, 1849, 39.626 00 "June 30, 42.693 50-168.613 60 Sept. 30, 42.485 90 "Dec. 31, 43.740 10 "March 31, 1860, 46.773 10 "June 30, 46.763 10-179.407 30 Sept. 30, 47.216 40 "Dec. 31, 47.808 40 "March 31, 1861, 52.304 70 62,304 70 March 31. 1851.

June 30, 49,409 00-196,828 50 Sept. 30, 44,231 30 Dec. 31, 38,511 61 March 31, 1852, 42,420 84 June 30, estimate, 44,000 00-169,163 75 Total......\$714.073 15 It will be observed that the receipts for the quar-

It will be observed that the receipts for the quarter ending June 30th, 1852, are estimated. This can easily be done by one who has been so long in the office as our present postmaster, and who is so familiar with its business in all its details. The reduction of the postage a second time has been in operation during the present year, and the dimination of the receipts is in consequence of it. The decrease, however, is not by any means so great as might have been anticipated.

The receipts for the year ending June 30th, 1852, will exceed those for the year ending June 30th, 1852, will exceed those for the year ending June 30th, 1852, will exceed those for the year ending June 30th, 1852, will exceed those for the year ending June 30th, 1852, will exceed those for the year ending June 30th, 1852, will exceed those for the year ending June 30th, 1852, will exceed those for the year ending June 30th, 1852, will exceed those for the years. It could hardly be expected that the genuine effect of cheap postage in augmenting correspondence would be immediately visible. Time must be allowed for the system so operate and produce its proper results. We are informed that the number of letters, &c., delivered by the carriers in this city during the quarter ending March 31st, 1852, was 453,025. The letters and papers delivered at the public box during the same period, amounted to about ten per cent of the above March 31st, 1852, was 483,025. The letters and papers delivered at the public box during the same period, amounted to about ten per cent of the above number, or 43,000, and the letters, &c., delivered at the private boxes, were at least equal to the whole number delivered by the carriers. The drop-leters, delivered by the post office city despatch, amount to 1,000 daily, or 90,000 during the quarter. It will thus be seen that, in the aggregate, about 1,000,000 letters, &c., have been delivered by the government post office in this city during the quarter ending as above.

The total number of pieces of pre-paid transient printed matter, consisting of circulars, nowspapers, books and pamphlets, sent away during the same period—174,885.

Since the last reduction of postage, the amount f business has been doubled at the Philadelphia ost office.

ost office.

Success of Forrion Adventurers—Lola Montes and Kossuth.—The Baltimore Clipper reads the Bostonians a lecture for their marked respect of the light-heeled Countess, their tour of inspection with her to the public schools, and declares that "the disposition seems to be inherent in the American people, to fawn upon foreign adventurers, whatever may be their characters." It thus couples the extremes of foreign debutants—Lola and the Magyar, who both came over in the same vessel, and have both been successful in their career.—

"Whilst the one has made a fortune by the use of his tengue, the other is amassing wealth by her heels. The people have applauded each in turn; and it is doubtful which has received the most distinguished marks of consideration. Kossuth instructs us in the proper construction of Washington's Farewell Address, and prescribes the policy which we ought to pursue; and Lole will no doubt give our young females sensible and practical leasons upon virtue and morality, as well as upon dancing. In fact, we should be a dull and stupid race, were it not that our intellects are occasionally enlightened by some kind foreigner, who compassionately undertakes to instruct and keep us straight."

Worthy of Barnegat.—It do stake all kinds of people to make up a world! Two miscreants on the Indiana shore, after the Redstone had blown up, and while yet persons were in the water drowning, and en the wreck burning, were engaged in picking up such articles as were valuable to them, and plundering the trunks that were blown ashore. And this they continued all the evening and on the Sabbath; and when there was no mere upon the shore, they went on to the wreek, cut irons from it, and picked up such things as they could steal.—Cin.Enq.

ANOTHER FAILURE OF THE FIRE ANNIHILATOR .-About 200 persons assembled at Newack on Saturday last, to see the extisguishing qualities of Phillips' Fire Annihilator tested. The result was, that the Fire Annihilator tested. The result was, that the building which was fired was burned down, although four or five annihilators were thrown in at the win-dows, after the flames had progressed a short time.